

Hardwoods: Greenheart

Trade Name:	Greenheart
Botanical Species:	Ocotea rodiaei
Other Names:	Sipiroe
Country of Origin:	Tropical South America, Guyanas
Weight:	Weight about 1030kgs/m ³ (64lb/ft ³) seasoned averaging 860kgs/m ³ (54lb/ ft ³) Specific gravity .86
Durability:	Very Durable Almost immune to decay and termites. Highly resistant to marine organism and fire. Extremely resistant to preservative treatment.
Colour:	Medium
Strength:	Has exceptionally high strength properties even when its weight is taken into account. Bending strength 181 N/mm ² (26200lb/in ²). Compression parallel to grain 89.9 N/mm ² (3040lb/in ²)

Seasoning:

- Slow to season with a risk of splitting.
- Moves moderately once dry.

Characteristics:

- Light greenish yellow to dark olive-green, sometimes marked with brown or black streaks.
- Sapwood pale yellow in colour, shading gradually into the heartwood.
- Texture fine and even.
- Grain straight or interlocked.
- Bole 50-80 ft long, cylindrical, diameter 20-35 inches.

Working Qualities:

- Easily sawn, in spite of a slight blunting effect.
- Turns well.
- Planing is not difficult despite the high density of the wood and interlocked grain.
- Easy gluing.

- Preboring is recommended for nails and screws.
- Good nail holding
- Staining rarely necessary.
- Polishes satisfactorily.

Uses:

- A very heavy hard timber, suitable for use under exacting conditions.
- Outstanding in most of its strength properties, and of very high durability and having excellent resistance to attack by marine borers.
- Available in very large sizes and long lengths, and is therefore suitable for piling, piers, lock gates, dock and harbour work.
- Useful for pier decking and hand rails, flooring and in engineering industry as bearers for engines.
- Gives good service in chemical plants for vats, filter press plates and frames.
- Suitable for joinery in both exterior and interior situations and used also for fishing rods and as centre laminates for longbow and general construction.